

DAKOTA SEEDS PROGRAM

Internships and assistantships are great ways to help fill your temporary workforce needs and establish a pipeline for permanent employees. To promote such internships and assistantships, the Dakota Seeds Program has been established. Internships are opportunities for undergraduate students while assistantships are directed toward graduate students. The Dakota Seeds Program will provide a central website where you can post internship and assistantship opportunities, giving you access to students at all South Dakota technical institutes, colleges and universities. When it comes to choosing the students for your position, that choice is left entirely up to you.



Dakota Seeds

“The new Dakota Seeds website will provide a one-stop location to post all of our internships, making it easier to reach a larger number of students.”

~Jody Wilson, Human Resource Manager
Hematech, Sioux Falls, SD

POST A POSITION ON THE DAKOTA SEEDS WEBSITE

- 1 Company completes job description
- 2 Job is posted to the Dakota Seeds website
- 3 Students apply for positions, following instructions set out by company
- 4 Company hires student to fill position

www.DakotaSeeds.com

For information about funding, contact:
Governor's Office of Economic Development
711 E. Wells Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
800-872-6190

To post an internship, go to
www.DakotaSeeds.com or contact your
local South Dakota Career Center.

Workforce development is a priority in South Dakota today. Our challenge is to create the jobs that will allow our young people to live and work in our state and find ways to connect our people with our employers.

Dakota Seeds will do that for students looking for meaningful work experiences while they pursue a higher education. Our new website, www.dakotaseeds.com, offers employers a place to post internships and assistantships.

Using the framework of the Department of Labor's South Dakota Career Centers, businesses can make one contact and have all their positions listed. This website is being promoted to all students at post-secondary institutions throughout the state, giving businesses access to a quality pool of applicants looking for a meaningful work environment in which to apply what they have learned in the classroom.

To help get this program started, the Department of Tourism and State Development has partnered with Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) to help defray the cost of starting an internship or assistantship for those businesses in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines. Eligible businesses may apply for funding for up to one-half the wages the students earn.

I invite you to be a part of this exciting new program. By working together, we can help build South Dakota's workforce.

Sincerely,



Mike Rounds



In order to apply, the following requirements must be met:

- ♥ Positions must be newly created, with plans to continue participation in Dakota Seeds in the future.
- ♥ Positions must provide a meaningful work experience for the student.
- ♥ Positions must have a link to science, technology (computer science), engineering or mathematics. This may be accomplished through the nature of the business, the project or the position.
- ♥ Companies must demonstrate how the funding will help meet a critical workforce need or help the company grow.
- ♥ Graduate students must be enrolled on a full-time basis at a South Dakota institution of higher learning.
- ♥ Students must be paid a minimum wage of \$9/hour.

DAKOTA SEEDS FUNDS

1 Company completes application for participation in the program

2 Application is reviewed and approved by the South Dakota Workforce Development Council

3 Position is posted to the Dakota Seeds website

4 Company signs letter of agreement and completes W-9 form

FOR DAKOTA SEEDS FUNDING

5 Company submits completion report and requests reimbursement

6 Reimbursement is sent to the company

7 Company responds to follow-up



To help encourage the creation of new internships and assistantships, the state of South Dakota is making funding available to assist with the wages of these employees. Dakota Seeds will provide a grant that will cover up to one-half of the

position's wages with a maximum of \$2,000 for undergraduate students, \$8,000 for masters degree students, and \$10,000 for PhD students. The grant is paid on a reimbursement basis.

A cap of five positions per company annually may be imposed, depending on the demand for funding.